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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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International Application No. : PCT/EP99/00317  
International Filing Date : 21 January 1999  
For : DISPATCH SYSTEM FOR CONTAINERS OF  
SORTED MAIL AND METHOD THEREFOR

Box PCT  
Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, Applicants wish to amend their application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 3-8, 11, 12, 14-17, 19-25, 29 and 30 as follows:

- Sub By 3. (amended) The system according to claim [1 or] 2,  
including another diverter mechanism (40) which diverts containers (94) from a  
feed line (26) onto said conveying surface.
4. (amended) The system according to [any of the claims] claim 1 [to 4],  
wherein said at least one transport mechanism (50, 50') lowers containers (94)  
from each of said spurs (44, 44') to a subjacent cart (52) associated with that spur  
(44, 44').
5. (amended) The system according to [any of the claims] claim 1 [to 4],  
wherein said at least one transport mechanism (50, 50') includes a plurality of  
stationary transport mechanisms (50, 50'), one associated with each of said spurs  
(44, 44').